

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 PC-01 AID-05
SY-05 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06 CCO-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02
OMB-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 MCT-01 /120 W
-----251339Z 107476 /46

O 251200Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3222

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAHINGER GER//ECJ-4-7 IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 KINSHASA 3877

PASS PEACE CORPS

USIS FOR IAA, IOP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG, AG

SUBJ: SHABA INVASION: SITREP 43 (APRIL 25, 1977)

1. FOLLOWING IS THE 43RD MISSION WIDE SURVEY INCLUDING REPORTS

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FROM LUBUMBASHI.

MILITARY SITUATION AS OF 241600Z APR 77.

NOTE ALL GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCES ARE TAKEN FROM JOINT OPERATIONS
GRAPHIC SERIES 1501 MAPS.

2. HOSTILE FORCES:

A. THE VUADI BATTALION HAS REPORTED NO FURTHER CONTACTS WITH HOSTILE FORCES THOUGHT TO BE ATTEMPTING TO BYPASS KAFAKUMBA (0940S/2346E) AND LTC VUADI HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO SEND OUT PATROLS TO LOCATE THEM.

B. IN THE OPINION OF A BELGIAN STAFF OFFICER AT DDN, THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT HOSTILE FORCES IN THE SOUTHERN SECTOR EAST OF KASAJI (1022S/2328E). THE LOW CASUALTY RATE FOR FAZ DURING THE CURRENT ADVANCE TENDS TO SUPPORT THIS OPINION.

C. REPORTS RECEIVED AT DDN REFLECT GROWING DISORDER AMONG HOSTILE FORCES IN THE SOUTHERN SECTOR. APPARENTLY A NUMBER OF ABANDONED WEAPONS AND UNIFORMS ARE BEING FOUND, ALONG WITH AMMUNITION. ON 23 APR FAZ REPORTEDLY RECOVERED 3 CASES OF 60MM MORTAR AMMO, 4 CASES OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES, ONE CASE OF POSSIBLE RPG-7 ROUNDS, AND AN UNDETERMINED QUANTITY OF 7.62 MM AMMO WHICH WAS REISSUED TO FAZ.

D. FAZ SOURCES REPORT HOSTILE COMPANY LOCATED AT DIAMBA (0854S/2402E).

E. ZAIRIAN FORCES:

A. THE 150 MAN COMPANY OF THE MIKONDO BRIGADE THAT WAS TO REINFORCE THE VUADI BATTALION WAS DUE TO ARRIVE KAMINA BASE AT 231200Z APR 77. ONWARD MOVEMENT TO KAFAKUMBA IS NOT YET CONFIRMED.

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B. IN THE SOUTHERN SECTOR, LEAD ELEMENTS OF TASK FORCE MUKOBO ARE STILL AT THE WEST BANK OF THE LUBUDI RIVER AWAITING COMPLETION OF PREPARATIONS BEFORE ATTACKING MUTSHATSHA (1039S/2426E). THE BLAST DAMAGE TO THE HIGHWAY BRIDGE AT 1035X/2439E) WAS MINOR AND HAS BEEN REPAIRED.

C. BG SINGA HAS REQUESTED A TOTAL OF 1000 PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT PARACHUTES. THE SHABANI BATTALION OF TASK FORCE MUKOBO AND ONE MOROCCAN BATTALION ARE PARACHUTE QUALIFIED. BG SINGA MAY BE CONSIDERING PARACHUTE ASSAULTS TO SEIZE THE BRIDGES AT BANGALALA (1030S/2420E) ACROSS THE MUKULESHI RIVER AND AT TSHELEMESHA (1029S/2352E) ACROSS THE LUEO RIVER.

D. BG ELUMBA, 5TH MILITARY REGIONAL COMMANDER (KASAI OCCIDENTAL) HAS BEEN PROVIDED A HELICOPTER FOR RECON. THIS SHOULD ALLOW MORE DETAILED REPORTS ON THE DISPOSITION OF FORCES IN THE VICINITY OF KAPANGA 0821S/2240E).

E. ZAIRIAN PRESS AGENCY (AZAP) REPORTS REOCCUPATION OF
MUTSHATSHA AS OF 250845Z APR 77. MISSION SOURCES HAVE NO
CONFIRMATION OF THIS REPORT.

4. MOROCCAN FORCES: THE MOROCCAN FORCES IDENTIFY THEMSELVES
AS THE "RAPID INTERVENTION GROUP" AND CALL THEIR FOUR SMALL
BATTALIONS "RAPID INTERVENTION DETACHMENTS (DIR), NUMBERED
1 THROUGH 4. THE 1ST DIR IS AT KOLWEZI (1043S/2528E)
WITH AN ELEMENT FORWARD SOME 10-15 KMS (THIS COULD BE THE
MOROCCANS SAID TO BE AT ZILO DAM (1029S/2527E). THE 2ND,
3RD AND 4TH DIR ARE WITH COL IKUKU'S FORCES WITH
UNITS FORWARD AT THE LUBUDI RIVER, NASONDOYE (1022S/2505E)
AND SAKALEZI (1031/2449E).

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USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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PASS PEACE CORPS
USIS FOR IAA, IOP

5. AIR: THE ONLY AIR DATA PROVIDED BY DDN WAS REGARDING A RECON MISSION BY A MIRAGE IN THE VICINITY OF KAFAKUMBA ON 23 APRIL. TWO "JEEPS" WERE REPORTED SOME 30 KMS EAST OF THERE. BECAUSE THEY POSSIBLY BELONGED TO MISSIONARIES THEY WERE NOT ENGAGED.

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A. FURTHER TO GERMAN ASSISTANCE (SEE SITREP 41) IDENTIFYING MARKS OF AMERICAN CHARTERED PLANE USED TO TRANSPORT SUPPLIES ARE DC-8: PANAMA N8-639.

6. DOMESTIC PRESS: KINSHASA MEDIA ECHO GENERAL GOZ UPBEAT MOOD WITH APRIL 25 "SALONGO" TYPICALLY HEADLINING MOBUTU VISIT TO KAYEMBE. UNREPORTED WAS VISIT LATER IN THE DAY TO LUFUPA ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN PRESS ON SECOND DAY OF SHABA TOUR. APRIL 24 "ELIMA" EDITORIAL -- "NO TO IDEOLOGICAL RE-COLONIZATION" -- AGAIN RAPS USSR AND WARNS THAT THE "SHABA AGGRESSION WILL PERHAPS NOT BE THE LATEST ADVENTURE FOMENTED BY THE SOVIET UNION WHICH, SINCE 1960, HAS STEPPED UP CONSPIRACIES AGAINST ZAIRE." AFRICA, SAYS "ELIMA," "HAS NO INTEREST IN LETTING ITSELF BE INVOLVED IN THE IDEOLOGICAL WAR THAT THE SOVIET UNION WANTS TO IMPOSE ON IT." "ZAIRE" MAGAZINE EDITORIAL APRIL 25 ISSUE DRAWS THAT JULY OAU MEETING IN LIBREVILLE MUST TACKLE QUESTION OF ALL STATES ADHERING TO GROUP'S CHARTER. THE OAU CHARTER PROVIDES FOR THE INVIOABILITY OF NATIONAL BORDERS, BUT YET SOME OAU MEMBERS HAVE ATTACKED ZAIRE FOR ASKING OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE TO DEFEND ITS BORDERS, THE MAGAZINE STATES. "IF RESPECT OF THE DISPOSITIONS OF THE OAU CHARTER IS A FUNCTION OF EACH MEMBER'S SENTIMENTS, THEN THE CONTINENT IS RACING TOWARDS AN IRREPAIRABLE DIVISION." ZAIRE PRESS AGENCY (AZAO) APRIL 25 EDITORIAL BOASTS OF MUBUTU SHABA VISIT ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. MOBUTU WHOSE "MATERNAL PRESENCE IS A PRECIOUS ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE SONS WHO FIGHT AGAINST A BARBAROUS AGGRESSION. "ALLIED "ELIMA" ARTICLE ON FRANCO-AFRICAN DAKAR MEETING LAUDS PRESIDENT GISCARD'S "BRILLANT ORATORY" AND SUPPORT FOR ZAIRE.

7. DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION:

A. KINSHASA: (1) BUSINESS AS USUAL. NEWS MEDIA GIVE FULL COVERAGE TO WEEKEND VISIT OF MOBUTU AND WIFE IN KILWEZI AND KAYEMBE AND INDICATE THAT PRESIDENT WILL VISIT LUBUMBASHI TODAY (APRIL 25). THE VISIT AND WIDE PRESS COVERAGE MAY BE SEEN AS FURTHER EFFORT BY MOBUTU TO DEMONSTRATE HIS CONTINUED CONTROL

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OF THE SITUATION AS WELL AS THE PERMANENCE OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S PRESENCE IN SHABA.

(2) IN KINSHASA THIS WEEKEND, URBAN COMMISSIONER SAKOMBI ANNOUNCED ANOTHER MARCH OF SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU, THIS ONE TO BE CONDUCTED MAY 1 BY THE "MAMAS" (AUTHENTIC TERM FOR ZAIRIAN WOMEN) OF KINSHASA.

(3) IN THE "SIDEWALK NEWS" OF THE CITE, RUMORS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS STILL CIRCULATE. TRANSFER OF NZEZA-LANDU (SEE SITREP 25) FROM CND PRISON TO THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT OF HYPERTENSION HAS CAUSED SOME MEMBERS OF KINSHASA'S BAKONGO POPULATION TO SPECULATE THAT ALL BAKONGO POLITICAL PRISONERS HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE HOSPITAL DUE TO SEVERE BEATINGS SUFFERED IN PRISON. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THIS IS NOT THE CASE, THOUGH A USUALLY WELL INFORMED SOURCE REPORTS THAT CROWDED CONDITIONS IN THE CND PRISON ARE MAKING PRISON LIFE DIFFICULT.

B. LUBUMBASHI: EXCEPT FOR CLEANING-UP ACTIVITIES IN ANTICIPATION OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S VISIT TO LUBUMBASHI APR 25 THE WEEKEND PASSED QUIETLY. AFTER HIS VISIT TO LUBUMBASHI, THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE HAS HIM DEPARTING FOR LIKASI ON APR 26, FOR KALEMIE ON APR 27, AND FOR KAMINA ON APR 28 BEFORE RETURNING TO KINSHASA.

C. KOLWEZI: ARRIVING EARLY IN THE MORNING ON APR 23, PRESIDENT MOBUTU HAD A SUCCESSFUL WEEKEND VISIT TO KOLWEZI WHICH REPORTEDLY INCLUDED A TRIP TO THE FRONT ON APR 24. THE PRESENCE OF THE MOROCCAN TROOPS AND THE PURPORTED ADVANCES BY FAZ HAVE CREATED A FEELING OF CALM AND OPTIMISM AMONG OFFICIAL CIRCLES IN KOLWEZI.

D. KAMINA: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

E. KANZENZE: IN A LETTER DATED APRIL 20, A BELGIAN CATHOLIC PRIEST WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM KANZENZE WROTE THAT ALL OF THE VILLAGES BETWEEN KANZENZE AND KOLWEZI HAVE BEEN ABANDONED BY INHABITANTS WHO HAVE FLED INTO THE BUSH. HE WROTE THAT FAZ HAD GUTTED SEVERAL SCHOOLS IN THE AREA BURNING DOORS, DESKS, AND BOOKS TO KEEP WARM AT NIGHT.

F. KAKAKUMBA/ METHODISTS NOW BACKTRACKING SLIGHTLY ON SECRET

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BOMBING OF CATHOLIC MISSION IN KAKAKUMBA. MISSIONARY PILOT NOW SAYS THAT WHILE MANY BOMB CRATERS IN AREA OF CATHOLIC MISSION, HE IS NOT SURE BUILDINGS SERIOUSLY DAMAGED.

8. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY:

A. ACCORDING TO KINSHASA DAILY "SALONGO" (APRIL 24 CENTRAL AFRICAN DEFENSE MINISTER ZANU, AFTER BRIEF VISIT WITH MOBUTU, STATED APRIL 23 THAT THE CAE HAD DECIDED TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE.

B. "SALONGO" (APRIL 25) ALSO REPORTS THAT ZAIRIAN
FOMIN NGUZA CARRIED PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES FROM MOBUTU TO
THE BOVERNMENTS OF SUDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA. IN BOTH COUNTRIES,
NGUZA SPOKE TO PRESS AND ATTACKED THE ROLE
OF THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA IN THE SHABA INVASION.

9. AMERICAN CITIZEN SITUATION: SIX OF THE PCV'S WHO HAD BEEN
ASSIGNED TO KAMINA (SORBO, TRAMMEL, RAJAN, REID, PETTERLIE,
AND SOFFE) DEPARTED LUBUMBASHI FOR KINSHASA FOR REASSIGNMENT
ABOARD A NEARLY EMPTY DC-10 ON APRIL 24. THE SEVENTH KAMINA
VOLUNTEER (SMITH) HAS BEEN REASSIGNED IN LUBUMBASHI. ALSO
DEPARTING WAS ONE OF THE PCV'S IN KILWA (COGSWELL) WHOSE
COS DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO MAY.
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Message Attributes

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SAS ID: 2707446
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: SHABA INVASION: SITREP 43 (APRIL 25, 1977)
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG, AG, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/313b969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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